Indian ships attacked in Iran Iraq War

2729. SHRI J. P. GOYAL:
SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM:
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether since the beginning of the Iran-Iraq war several Indian ships have become its victim in the Gulf areas;

(b) if so, what is the number of ships destroyed or damaged and the estimated loss suffered as a result thereof;

(c) whether Government have lodged a protest to the countries concerned in this regard, and if so, the reaction of those countries thereto; and

(d) what measures have been taken to protect Indian ships in the Gulf areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Since commencement of the Iran-Iraq war, the number of Indian ships lost is 7 and damaged 5. The estimated loss of property is about Rs. 9 crores.

(c) No formal protest has been lodged by Government of India so far as the identity of the attackers has not been formally established. The Iranian authorties with whom the matter was taken up, have denied any responsibility in the matter.

(d) while no arrangements exist to enlist protection for shipping in the Gulf, navigational warning is under promulgation since 1984 to ship owners, keep themselves aloof from the war zone. Government is supporting all efforts to bring about an end to the Iran-Iraq war, to reduce tension in the region and to ensure freedom of navigation in the international waters of the Gulf.

Menace of bird hits

2730. SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of bird hitting in respect of Air India and Vayudoot during the last three years, organisation-wise;

(b) the total amount of loss suffered due to bird hits, year-wise and organisation-wise alongwith the number of casualties, if any;

(c) whether it is a fact that a report has been submitted to Government on the subject; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The bird hit incidents to Air India and Vayudoot aircraft during the last 3 years are as under:

Year	1985	1986	1987 (upto June)
Air India	19	19	9
Vayudoot	1	5	1

(b) Year	1985	1986	1987 (upto June)
			(Rs. in lakhs)
Air India	46 42	29·87	0·24
Vayudoot	5 50	38·44	18·73